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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bruce Gordon Ramsey

Group No.: 1762

S/N: 10/621,700

Examiner: Eric B. Fuller

Filed: July 17, 2003

Entitled: Vacuum Chamber Load Lock Structure and Article Transport Mechanism

Dkt. No.: 99A429 (DIV)

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on MARCH 13, 2006.
(Date)

Betty Lee

Printed name of person signing this certificate

Betty Lee

Signature of person mailing

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BEFORE MAILING DATE OF EITHER A FINAL ACTION
OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(C))**

**TIME OF TRANSMITTAL OF ACCOMPANYING
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

1. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after three months of the filing date of this national application or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurred last but before the mailing date of either:

- (1) a final action under § 1.113 or
 - (2) a notice of allowance under § 1.311,
- whichever occurs first.

STATEMENT OR FEE

2. Accompanying this transmittal is

(check either A or B below)

A. ☒ a statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

OR

B. ☐ the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c). (\$180.00).

FEE PAYMENT

(complete this item, if applicable)

3. Applicant elects the option to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under § 1.97(c) (\$180.00).

Fee due \$ _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEE

4. ☐ Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$ _____

☒ to Deposit Account No. 02-2865

☒ Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment in the manner authorized above.

A duplicate of this paper is attached.

Date:

March 13, 2006

SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No.: 31,147

Tel. No.: (908) 771-6469

Customer No.: 020411

Ira Lee Zebrak
Ira Lee Zebrak
The BOC Group, Inc.
Legal Services-Intellectual Property
575 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974



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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**STATEMENT FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
UNDER 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(e)**

**IDENTIFICATION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
FOR WHICH THIS STATEMENT IS BEING MADE**

1. This statement is being made for the Information Disclosure Statement herewith.

STATEMENT

2. I, the person signing below, state that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited for the first time in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(e)(1).

IDENTIFICATION OF PERSON MAKING THIS STATEMENT

3. The person making this certification is:
 - (a) the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information in the practitioner's file.

Date: March 13, 2006

Ira Lee Zebrak
SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Reg. No.: 31,147

Tel. No.: (908) 771-6469

Customer No.: 020411

Ira Lee Zebrak
The BOC Group, Inc.
Legal Services-Intellectual Property
575 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/621,700
Filing Date	July 17, 2003
First Named Inventor	Bruce Gordon Ramsay
Art Unit	1762
Examiner Name	Eric B. Fuller
Attorney Docket Number	99A429 (DIV)

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	4	EP 0 567 121 A1	10-27-1993	Applied Materials, Inc.		
	5	JP 11-50253	02-23-1999	Shibaura Eng Works Co Ltd		
	6	WO 99/35673	07-15-1999	Tokyo Electron Arizona		
	7	WO 99/48652	09-30-1999	Brooks Automation, Inc.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Examiner Name	Eric B. Fuller
Attorney Docket Number	99A429 (DIV)

Sheet 2

of

2

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	8	UTSUNOMIYA NOBUAKI; Patent Abstracts of Japan; abstract of JP 11050253, "Vacuum Treating Device," February 23, 1999; Shibaura Eng Works Co Ltd.	
	9	WATANABE JUN; Patent Abstracts of Japan; abstract of JP 11156771, "Substrate Conveying Device and Substrate Conveying Method," June 15, 1999; DaiNippon Screen Mfg Co Ltd	
	10	European Search Report of Application No. EP 01 30 8428; Date of completion of the search: February 21, 2006	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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